

**In the specification:**

Please amend paragraph [0033] as follows:

[0033] FIG. 4 shows one embodiment of a fiber tap monitor 400. A fiber 140 with a core 140A and a cladding 140B has one portion whose cladding is partially removed to form a surface 144. The surface 144 is within the extent of the evanescent field of the guided light in the fiber core 140A. The surface 144 is polished to operate as the fiber coupling port. An optical detector 410, such as a photodiode, is then positioned to receive and detect the evanescent light at the surface 144. The amount of evanescent light at the surface 144 may be set at a desired percentage of the total guide ling in the fiber 140 by controlling the distance between the fiber core 140A and the surface 144 during the fabrication phase. The evanescent light ~~delays~~decays in magnitude exponentially with the distance. Hence, the closer the surface 144 to the fiber core 144A, the higher the percentage of the evanescent light being coupled to the optical detector 410.